62 63. The system of claim 56 wherein said first server system includes a payment mechanism, said first server system configured to include said payment mechanism in its requests to obtain postage, said payment mechanism being associated with said first server system.

63 64. The method of claim 56 wherein said data communication network includes a secure communication channel.

64 65. The method of claim 64 wherein said secure communication channel is based on a data transmission protocol, including XML protocol.
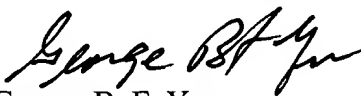
65 66. The method of claim 64 wherein said secure communication channel is a land line.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,

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APPENDIX A

Mark-up Copy of Amendments to the Specification

The two paragraphs beginning on page 2, line 24 have been amended as follows:

(6) U.S. Non-Provisional Patent Application No. __/___,___, entitled "System And Method Of Printing Labels" (Attorney Docket No. 006969-025610US);[**and**]

(7) U.S. Non-Provisional Patent Application No. __/___,___, entitled "Providing Stamps On Secure Paper Using A Communications Network" (Attorney Docket No. 006969-022220US)[.]:

(8) U.S. Non-Provisional Patent Application No. 09/611,375, entitled "Providing Stamps On Secure Paper Using A Communications Network," filed July 7, 2000;

(9) U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/216,779, entitled "System And Method Of Printing Labels," filed July 7, 2000;
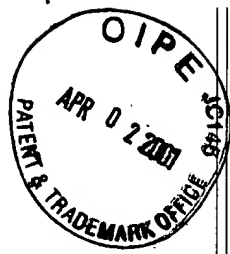
(10) U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/216,653, entitled "Method And System For Dispensing Postage Over The Internet, With Enhanced Postal Security Features" filed July 7, 2000;

(11) U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/206,207, entitled "Providing Stamps on Secure Paper Using A Communications Network" filed May 22, 2000;

(12) U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/204,357, entitled "Stamps Over a Communications Network" filed May 15, 2000;

(13) U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/181,299, entitled "System and Method For Stamps Over The Internet," filed February 9, 2000; and

(14) U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 60/181,368, entitled "System and Method For Stamps Over The Internet," filed February 8, 2000.

APPENDIX B

Mark-up Copy of Amendments to the Claims

1   32.   (Amended Once) A computer-readable medium containing instructions
2 that controls a computer system to **[dispensing]** <u>dispense</u> postage to users, by:
3   receiving requests for postage from one or more of said users;
4   communicating with a server system, including communicating said requests for
5 postage, said server system providing information for printing indicia; and
6   receiving said information for printing indicia from said server system, wherein
7 said information for printing indicia is then distributed to said one or more users to satisfy said
8 requests for postage.

1   47.   (Amended Once) The method of claim **[5a]** <u>42</u> wherein said dispensing
2 postage includes sending a postage request from said first server system to said second server
3 system.

1   51.   (Amended Once) The method of claim **[5a]** <u>42</u> wherein said second
2 server is a postal server.